IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Tomohiro TSUNODA et al. Applicants:

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745 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10151

Tel. (212) 588-0800

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Official Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or Claim 2";

Claim 4, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1, 2, and 3, " and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 6, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 5" and insert -- Claim 1--;

Claim 7, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 4, 5, and 6, and insert --Claim 4--;

Claim 8, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 7" and insert --Claim 1--;

Claim 9, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 2 through 8" and insert --Claim 2--;

Claim 14, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 10 through 13" and insert --Claim 10--;

Claim 15, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 10 through 14" and insert --Claim 10--;

Claim 18, line 1, delete "or 17";

Claim 19, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 16, 17, or 18" and insert --Claim 16--;

Claim 21, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 16 through 20" and insert --Claim 16--;

Claim 22, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 19, 20, or 21" and insert --Claim 19--;

Claim 23, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 16 through 22" and insert --Claim 16--;

Claim 24, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 17 through 23" and insert --Claim 17--;

Claim 29, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 25 through 28" and insert --Claim 25--;

Claim 30, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 25 through 29" and insert --Claim 25--;

Claim 32, line 1, delete "Claims 1 or 2" and insert -- Claim 1--;

Claim 34, line 1, delete "or 33";

Claim 36, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 32 through 35" and insert --Claim 32--;

Claim 37, line 1, delete "any of Claims 34, 35, or 36," and insert --claim 34--;

Claim 38, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 32 through 37" and insert --Claim 32--;

Claim 39, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 32 through 38" and insert --Claim 32--;

Claim 44, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 40 through 43" and insert --Claim 40--;

Claim 45, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 40 through 44" and insert --Claim 40--;

Claim 46, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 4, 7, 9 through 19, 22, 24 through 34, 37, 39 through 45," and insert --Claim 1--;

Claim 47, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 46" and insert --Claim 1--;

Claim 50, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 47, 48, and 49," and insert --Claim 47--;

Claim 52, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 51" and insert -- Claim 1--;

Claim 53, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 52" and insert --Claim 1--;

Claim 55, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1 through 54" and insert --Claim 1--;

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Claim 56, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 55" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 58, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 57" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 59, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 58" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 61, lines 1 and 2, delete "Claims 15, 30, 31, 45
through 60" and insert -- Claim 15--;
          Claim 62, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 60" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 64, line 1, delete "or 63";
          Claim 67, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 66" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 68, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 67" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 69, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 68" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 70, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 69" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 71, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 70" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 72, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 1
through 71" and insert -- Claim 1--;
          Claim 76, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73, 74, and 75"
and insert -- Claim 73--;
          Claim 77, line 2, delete "any of Claims 74, 75, and 76"
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and insert -- Claim 74--;

Claim 78, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 77" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 79, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 78" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 84, line 2, delete "any of Claims 80 through 83" and insert --Claim 80--;

Claim 85, line 2, delete "any of Claims 80 through 84" and insert --Claim 80--;

Claim 86, line 2, delete "any of Claims 79 through 85" and insert --Claim 79--;

Claim 87, line 2, delete "any of Claims 79 through 86" and insert --Claim 79--;

Claim 88, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73, 74, 77, 79 through 87" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 89, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 88" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 92, lines 1 and 2, delete "any of Claims 89 through 91" and insert --Claim 89--;

Claim 94, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 93" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 95, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 94" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 97, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 96" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 99, line 2, delete "any of Claims 85 through 98" and insert -- Claim 85--;

Claim 100, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 99" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 102, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 103" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 103, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 102" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 104, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 102" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 105, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 104" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 106, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 105" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 107, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 106" and insert --Claim 73--;

Claim 108, line 2, delete "any of Claims 73 through 107" and insert --Claim 73--.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. The filing fee has been calculated based upon these amendments to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicants

William S. Frommer

Reg./No. 25,506 Tel. (212) 588-0800